

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

AL-IV-A-165

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ebenezer Baptist Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER North side of Cumberland Street, east of B &amp; O Railroad tracks

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Allegany

CODE

001

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Ebenezer Church, c/o Harry J. Bunch, Deacon

STREET &amp; NUMBER

324 Braddock Street

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21532

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Prospect Square

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

21502

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AL-IV-A-165

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT      ☒ DETERIORATED  
☐ GOOD      ☐ RUINS  
☒ FAIR      ☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Ebenezer Baptist Church is located on the north side of Cumberland Street several lots east of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks in Cumberland, Allegany County, Maryland. It is a two-story tan brick structure built in 1875, three bays (28') wide with a cross gable and four bays (40') deep. A small steeple is perched on the roof to the east of the cross gable.

The main entrance is in the center of the south facade. It consists of a double door with a lancet-shaped transom. The arch over the transom is laid in darker brick, two rows of all headers. On the second floor there are three lancet windows with double hung sash and stone sills. They have arches above like that on the door. The sash have one large pane with a row of small squares of stained glass around the edge. The central window is shorter and wider than the others and extends a little way into the cross gable end. Rusticated stone quoins decorate both corners of the south facade.

The steeple sits on the south slope of the east end of the roof. It is a square shingled structure with louvered panels on the sides and a      roof. The roof and cross gable across the front of the church are very steep. The roof over the rear three bays is perpendicular to the front roof and has a shallow pitch.

Along the sides there are four windows on both the first and second stories. Those on the second story are identical to the flanking windows on the south facade. The first story windows are shorter and have stone sills and segmentally arched lintels of two rows of headers. These windows are boarded up.

The Church is built into a slope and has an exposed basement on the rear facade.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
00-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		black history
				local history

SPECIFIC DATES

1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The cornerstone of the Ebenezer Baptist Church was laid in August 1875, and the church was completed the same year. The church is located on the west side of historic Will's Creek, on Cumberland Street.

The lot on which the church is located was purchased of George Henderson, Jr. (a prominent businessman of Cumberland) and deeded to Lewis Hicks, Willie Johnson, Robert Trent, Simon Bolden, and John H. Homes, a committee appointed by Ebenezer African Baptist Church of Cumberland.

The present brick building was constructed in a very nice residential area, giving the church an excellent view of the city of Cumberland. The church is also in sight of Cumberland's most historic site, Fort Cumberland.

Ebenezer Church is a very style-conscious structure, emulating the Gothic revival architecture of many 19th century churches. It was constructed by the black population of Cumberland at a time when money was scarce and business failing in this area. In spite of this, the church was planned and constructed by a group who largely depended on labor in local business and industry for their wages.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Lowdermilk, Will H. History of Cumberland. 1878.

Preservation Society of Allegany County. Heritage Press. Cumberland, 1975.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40 feet by 50 feet

UTM REFERENCES

A 

ZONE	EASTING				NORTHING				

B 

ZONE	EASTING				NORTHING				

C 

ZONE	EASTING				NORTHING				

D 

ZONE	EASTING				NORTHING				

Reference Allegany County Deeds 47/650 (1876) and 89/637 (1907).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mel Collins

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Society of Allegany County, Inc.

DATE

2/2/79

STREET & NUMBER

Bedford Road Maryland Motel

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

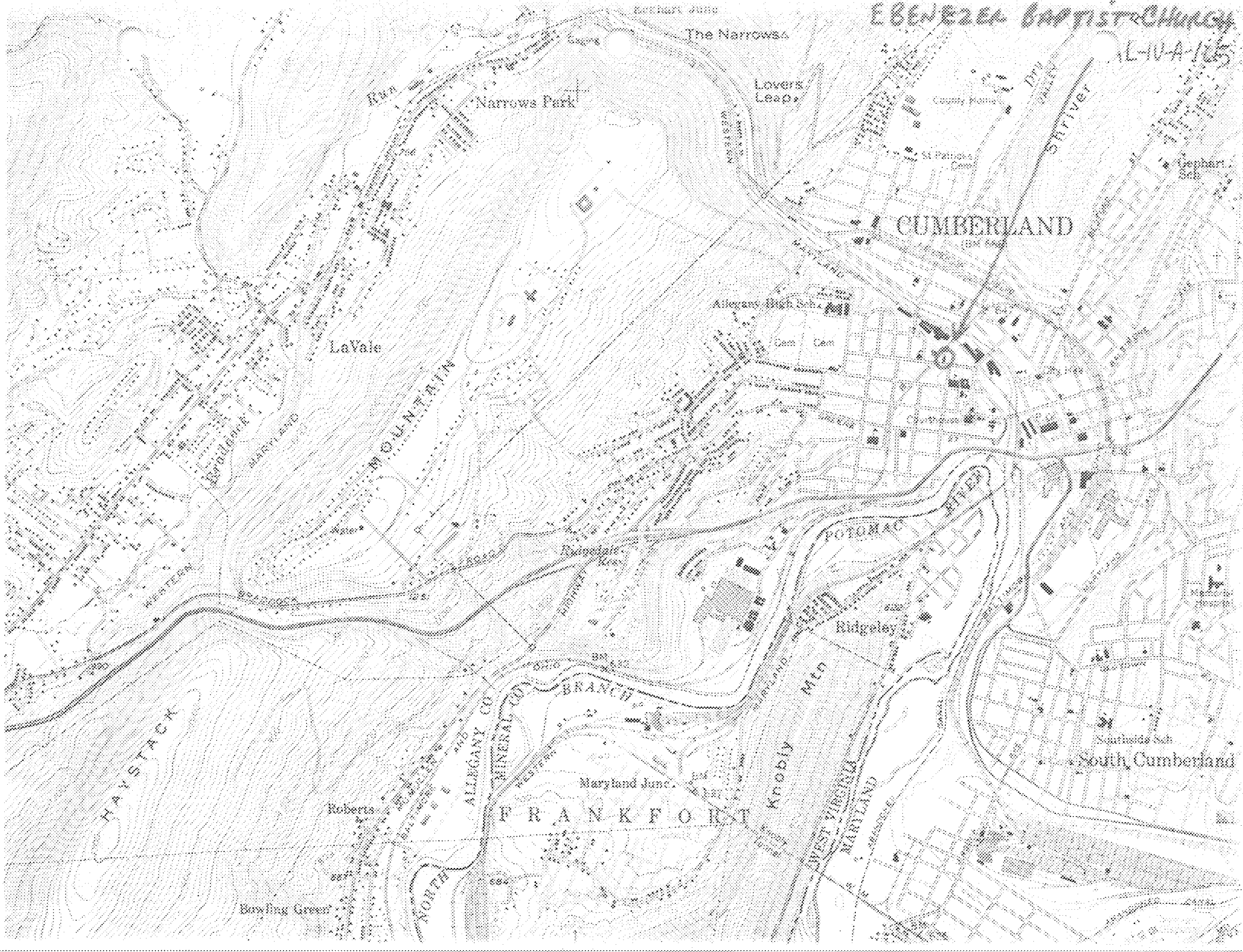
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

LA-VA-125

The Narrows

Narrows Park

Lovers Leap

County Home

St. Patrick's

Gephart Sch

CUMBERLAND

(City Seat)

Allegheny High Sch

Can. Can.

Church St

LaVale

MOUNTAIN

POTOMAC

Ridgeley

BRANCH

Maryland Junc.

FRANKFORT

KNOBLY Mtn

WEST VIRGINIA

MARYLAND

Southside Sch  
South Cumberland

Roberts

Bowling Green



AL-IV-A-165  
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH  
CUMBERLAND STREET  
CUMBERLAND, MD

July 1977

COMPLIMENTS OF THE  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
Cumberland, MD 21502

PHOTO BY - MEL COLLINS

PROPERTY OF  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
OF ALLEGANY COUNTY,  
MARYLAND

918





AL-IV-A-165  
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH  
CUMBERLAND STREET  
CUMBERLAND MD

July 1977

COMPLIMENTS OF THE  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
Cumberland, MD 21502

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PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
OF ALLEGANY COUNTY,  
MARYLAND

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